Supplementary Methods

Flow-cytometric analysis

For analysis of mGFP expression by microscopy, HSCs were plated in chamber slides and maintained for 16h in DMEM media containing 10% FBS and antibiotics. For flow-cytometric analysis of mGFP expression, HSCs were analyzed on a FACSAria cell sorter based on vitamin A fluorescence to gate high purity HSCs, and mGFP expression to detect HSCs marked by Vim-CreER, providing a percentage of mGFP-positive cells among all Vitamin A-positive cells. For the analysis of mRNA expression, HSCs were sorted on a FACSAria cell sorter based on vitamin A fluorescence to gate high purity HSCs, and in some cases mGFP expression, and immediately lysed in RNA lysis buffer.

Bone marrow transplantation. Bone marrow transplantation was performed as previously described 1 . Briefly, mice underwent lethal irradiation with 2x6Gy followed by intravenous injection of $10x10^{6}$ bone marrow cells and reconstitution for at least 2 months following transplantation.

Microarray analysis. Microarray analysis of quiescent HSCs (n=4 independent HSC isolates) and reverted HSCs (n=4 independent isolates) was performed using Affymetrix 1.0ST chips according to the manufacturers instructions. Briefly, 150 ng total RNA was used for cDNA sythesis and terminal labeling using the Ambion WT expression and terminal labeling kit and Robust Multichip Algorithm normalization ². Data was deposited in GEO (Accession number: GSE38648). Differential expression was obtained

using Limma ³ in the R/Bioconductor statistical computing environment ⁴. A significance cutoff of the Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Rate <0.05 was used ⁵. Complete linkage hierarchical clustering ⁶ was performed on significant genes with |log₂FC| >0.67 using Cluster 3.0 ⁷ and JavaTreeview ⁸. Pathway analysis was done by IPA Ingenuity using genes selecting by the above criteria, i.e. False Discovery Rate <0.05 and |log₂FC| >0.67.

Immunohistochemistry and confocal microscopy

Immunohistochemical staining was done on frozen sections using primary antibodies against vimentin (1:100, Epitomics, Burlingame, CA, USA), desmin (1:200, Lab Vision, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Fremont, CA, USA), F4/80 (1:200, AbD Serotec, Raleigh, NC, USA), rabbit-anti cow pankeratin ("wide spectrum screening", 1:200, DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA), CD31 (1:200, Pharmingen, San Diego, CA) and HNF4α (1:100, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, CA, USA), and secondary Alexa Fluor 647 goat anti-rabbit, chicken anti-rat or Alexa Fluor 660 donkey anti-goat (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA). Confocal microscopy was performed on a Nikon A1R MP confocal microscope (Nikon Instruments, Melville, NY, USA) using a 40x oil immersion lens. For some pictures, 4-6 40x sections were merged.

mGFP quantification

mGFP expression in purified HSCs was quantified 16h after plating. mGFP and Vitamin A fluorescence and phase contrast images were visualized an Olympus 71IX microscope using a 10x lens. Vitamin A-positive cells, mGFP-positive cells and VitaminA-mGFP

double-positive cells were counted in Adobe Photoshop. mGFP expression was detected in frozen liver sections by confocal microscopy and analyzed by Image J. Data is expressed as percentage of mGFP area in comparison to total area.

Quantitative Real-time and Single Cell PCR

After column purification of RNA (RNeasy, Qiagen), DNAse treatment and reverse transcription, mRNA levels of Acta2, Colla1, Colla2, Desmin, Lox and Timp1 were determined by quantitative real-time PCR on an Applied Biosystem 7300 PCR cycler using ABI Taqman primers and probes as described. For single cell PCR, single HSCs were flow-cytometrically sorted, using Vitamin A autofluorescence and excluding dead cells by propidium iodide staining, into 96-well plates containing a 9 μl mix of RT buffer from the Invitrogen CellsDirectTM One–Step qRT–PCR kit (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) and primers for pre-amplification. For the construction of standard curves, 1000 HSCs were sorted into some wells. Reverse transcription and 18 cycles of pre-amplification were immediately performed after cell sorting using the CellsDirectTM One–Step qRT–PCR kit. The ensuing qPCR was performed as described above using the 7300 Applied Biosystems PCR cycler and Taqman probes. Single cell qPCR was normalized to desmin, and only desmin-positive wells were used for qPCR analysis.

Statistical analysis

All data is expressed as means with error bars representing the standard deviation. Statistical calculations were performed using Prism (Graphpad, San Diego California, USA). For comparison of two groups, two-sided unpaired t-test or Mann-Whitney test

were used. For multiple group comparisons with normal distribution, ANOVA with Neuman-Keuls or Dunnett posthoc analysis was performed. A p-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Supplementary Figure legends.

Supplementary Figure 1. HSCs were isolated from male untreated Balb/c mice or from Balb/c mice treated with 4 injections of CCl₄ and sacrificed at various time points after the last CCl₄ injection for the analysis of fibrogenic genes Colla1, Colla2, αSMA and TIMP1.

Supplementary Figure 2. A. Balb/c mice were treated with 12 intraperitoneal injections of TAA or left untreated, followed by HSC isolation by the combination of gradient centrifugation and vitamin A-based single cell FACS sorting. Analysis included qHSCs from untreated mice (n=58) and HSCs 6 days after TAA (n=50), 12 days after TAA (n=102), and 24 days after TAA (n=58). Following preamplification, single cell qPCR was performed for Colla1 (left panel). Shown is one out of two representative HSC isolations per time point. Sirius Red staining demonstrates TAA-induces fibrosis induction and reversal after cessation of injury. B. Vim-Cre mice were treated with 18 intraperitoneal injections of TAA and tamoxifen or tamoxifen alone as indicated, followed by HSC isolation by gradient centrifugation. Expression of mGFP was

determined by flow-cytometric analysis of Vitamin A-autofluorescent HSCs. Shown are representative FACS images of each time point (left panels) and quantification (right panel) of HSCs isolated from control mice (n=6), HSCs isolated 3 days (n=4) and 45 days (n=3) after the last TAA injection. C-D. Expression of mGFP was determined by fluorescent microscopy of plated HSCs isolated from TAA-treated or tamoxifen only control mice at various time points. Shown are representative pictures of vitamin A fluorescence, mGFP expression and an overlay of both (C.), and a quantification (D.) of GFP-positive/Vitamin A-positive HSCs. E. Fibrogenic gene expression in whole liver from Vim-CreER mice was performed by qPCR in TAA-treated mice at day 3 (n=4) or day 45 (n=3) after the last CCl₄ injection or in mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). *p<0.05, **p<0.01

Supplementary Figure 3. Shown is the construct for generation of VimCreER-transgenic mice by BAC recombineering.

Supplementary Figure 4. To determine whether endothelial cells are marked in VimCreER transgenic mice, frozen sections of CCl₄-treated liver, stomach, small intestine and colon were stained for CD31 and analyzed by confocal microscopy. All sections show close but separate localization of CD31-positive endothelium (red) and mGFP (green). Nuclei were stained by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 5. To determine whether macrophages are marked in VimCreER transgenic mice, frozen sections of CCl₄-treated liver, stomach and colon were stained for F4/80 and analyzed by confocal microscopy. All sections show close but separate

localization of F4/80-positive macrophages (red) and mGFP (green). Nuclei were stained by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 6. Confocal microscopy of livers from either 2 week bile duct ligated mice or sham-operated mice showing Vim-CreER mediated recombination by green mGFP fluorescence, and unrecombined cells by red mTom fluorescence. Nuclei were stainted by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 7. A-B. Mice that either did or did not receive 4 injections of CCl₄ were sacrificed 31 days after their last tamoxifen injection (corresponding to 30 days after their last CCl₄ injection). Frozen liver sections were analyzed for the percentage of mGFP-positive area in mice that received CCl₄ (n=7) or mice that did not receive CCl₄ (n=4) (A.). HSCs were isolated from mice that received CCl₄ (n=7) or mice that did not receive CCl₄ (n=3) and the percentage of GFP-positive cells among all Vitamin A-positive cells was determined by counting (B.).

Supplementary Figure 8. A. Schematic diagram showing the timing of tamoxifen and CCl₄ injections, and sacrifice at 2, and 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection of VimCreER mice. B. Sirius Red images show almost complee reversal of liver fibrosis at d45 after 8 CCl₄ injections. C. mGFP and mTom expression in livers of untreated or CCl₄-treated mice were visualized by confocal microscopy 2, and 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection or a time point corresponding to 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection in the tamoxifen only control mice. The middle and right panel show higher magnification representing the area marked by dotted white lines in the left panel. D. mGFP expression was quantified and expressed as percentage of total area for CCl₄-treated mice at day 2 (n=6)

or day 45 (n=5) after the last CCl₄ injection or mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). E. Fibrogenic gene expression in whole liver from Vim-CreER mice was performed by qPCR in CCl₄-treated mice at day 2 (n=6) or day 45 (n=5) after the last CCl₄ injection or in mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). F-G. HSCs were isolated from CCl₄-treated mice at d2 and d45 after last CCl₄ injection or from tams. HSCs from control mice receiving corn oil and tamoxifen only were isolated at a time corresponding to 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection. Expression of mGFP was determined by flow-cytometric analysis of Vitamin A-autofluorescent HSCs. Shown are representative FACS images of each time point (F.) and quantification (G.) of HSCs isolated from untreated mice (n=3), HSCs isolated 2 days (n=2) and 45 days (n=3) after the last CCl₄ injection. Inserts show HSCs from each sorted cell population confirming cells as vitamin A-positive HSCs that either do not express mGFP and are mTom positive, or express mGFP but not mTom. H-I. Expression of mGFP was determined by fluorescent microscopy of plated HSCs isolated from CCl₄-treated or tamoxifen only control mice at various time points. Shown are representative pictures of vitamin A fluorescence, mGFP expression and an overlay of both (H.), and a quantification (I.) of GFP-positive/Vitamin A-positive HSCs. * p<0.05 ** p<0.01

Supplementary Figure 9. Wild-type mice underwent bone marrow transplantation with mTom-mGFP+/Vim-CreER+ bone marrow as described in Methods and Material followed by 4 intraperitoneal injections of CCl₄ (0.5 µl/g body weight). A. Representative images at peak fibrosis (d2) and after fibrosis resolution (d30) show abundant bone mTom-positive marrow-derived inflammatory cells but only extremely rare mGFP-positive cell. B-C. HSCs were isolated from 4xCCl₄-treated bone marrow-chimeric mice

2 and 30 days after the last CCl₄ injection. FACS analysis (B) and fluorescent microscopy (C) did not show significant presence of mGFP-positive HSCs.

Supplementary Figure 10. A-B. Display of the IPA pathway analysis for 37 genes that were altered in reverted HSCs in comparison to qHSCs fulfilling the criteria of False Discovery Rate <0.05 and |log₂FC| >0.67. Show is the IPA analysis for gene functions (A) and canonical pathways (B) using the 37 genes with sign Supplementary Table 1.

Supplementary Table 1. Shown are the gene symbol, description, log fold change, p-value, corrected p-value ("fdr"), gene ontology biological process, gene ontology cellular component, gene ontology molecular function and pathway annotation for all 37 genes that were significantly different between reverted HSCs and qHSCs (fulfilling the criteria of False Discovery Rate <0.05 and |log₂FC| >0.67).

Supplementary Table 2. Hepatic stellate cells were isolated from age-matched untreated mice (n=4) or mice that had undergone 4 CCl_4 injections followed by a 45 day recovery period (n=4) followed by microarray analysis using Affymetrix 1.0 ST arrays. Shown are all annoted genes with more than 0.5 log change and an uncorrected p-value of < 0.01.

Supplementary References

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Lgi2	Description leucine-rich repeat LGI family, member 2 loc calcium channel, voltage-dependent, L type, alpha 1C subunit	-1.27	P.Value 9.94E-07 (1.66E-06 (0.009	transport ion transport calcium ion transport cellular calcium ion homeostasis smooth muscle contraction synaptic transmission adult walking behavior regulation of blood pressure visual learning calcium ion-dependent exocytosis	GO_cellular_component extracellular_region caveolar macromolecular signaling complex assay membrane fraction plasma membrane voltage-gated calcium channel complex membrane integral to membrane Z disc T-tubule sarcolemma neuronal cell body dendritic shaft	GO molecular function protein binding osteoblast differentiation eye developmen kidney developmen kidney development endochondral ossification inflammatory response multicellular organismal development cell differentiation BMP signaling pathway male genitalia development growth positive regulation of neuron differentiation positive regulation of osteoblast differentiation cartilage development	pathway Calcium_regulation_in_cardiac_cells
Bmpt	bone morphogenetic protein 6	-0.92	1.95E-06 C			extracellular region extracellular space cytoplasm membrane-bounded vesicle	cytokine activity protein binding growth factor activity protein heterodimerization activity BMP receptor binding	
Svep	sushi, von Willebrand factor type A, EGF and pentraxin domain containing 1	-1.30	1.96E-06 C	0.009		extracellular region cytoplasm membrane extracellular region	chromatin binding calcium ion binding protein binding	
Gpr1	26 G protein-coupled receptor 126	-1.04	2.16E-06 C		signal transduction; cell surface receptor linked signaling pathway; G-protein coupled receptor protein signaling pathway; neuropeptide signaling pathway	cytoplasm plasma membrane	signal transducer activity receptor activity transmembrane receptor activity G-protein coupled receptor activity	
	o1 cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily b, polypeptide 1				cellular aromatic compound metabolic process estrogen metabolic process toxin metabolic process dibenzo-p-dioxin metabolic process oxidation reduction	endoplasmic reticulum microsome	monooxygenase activity iron ion binding electron carrier activity oxidoreductase activity heme binding metal ion binding aromatase activity monooxygenase activity	
Sectr	11a secreted and transmembrane 1A		2.70E-06 C			extracellular region plasma membrane membrane integral to membrane		
Ano4	anoctamin 4		3.62E-06 0		ion transport	membrane integral to membrane chloride channel complex	ion channel activity chloride channel activity	
Il2rg	interleukin 2 receptor, gamma chain				positive regulation of CD4-positive, CD25-positive, alp cell differentiation positive regulation of T cell differentiation in the thym positive regulation of B cell differentiation	external side of plasma membrane cell surface integral to membrane	receptor activity cytokine receptor activity interleukin-2 binding interleukin-7 binding	Inflammatory_Response_Pathway
Cxcl1	4 chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 14	-1.08	5.38E-06 C	0.013		extracellular region extracellular space	cytokine activity chemokine activity	
Clic5	chloride intracellular channel 5	-1.32	6.19E-06 C		transport ion transport chloride transport sensory perception of sound protein localization neuromuscular process controlling balance	cytoplasm Golgi apparatus cytoskeleton membrane integral to membrane stereocilium chloride channel complex	ion channel activity voltage-gated ion channel activity voltage-gated chloride channel activity chloride channel activity	
Fam1 Nufip	9a1 family with sequence similarity 19, member A1 1 nuclear fragile X mental retardation protein interacting protein 1		7.08E-06 0 9.21E-06 0	0.013	positive regulation of transcription from RNA polymer	extracellular region nucleus perichromatin fibrils nucleolus transcription elongation factor complex nuclear matrix cytosolic ribosome presynaptic active zone	RNA binding protein binding zinc ion binding zinc ion binding metal ion binding	 mRNA_processing_binding
Myo1	d myosin !D	-1.06	1.67E-06 0	0.009		myosin complex	ATP binding actin binding calmodulin binding	
Lox	lysyl oxidase				response to hormone stimulus collagen fibril organization lung development wound healing elastic fiber assembly oxidation reduction	extracellular region proteinaceous extracellular matrix collagen	cambount billion protein-lysine 6-oxidase activity copper ion binding oxidoreductase activity oxidoreductase activity oxidoreductase activity, acting on the CH-NH2 metal ion binding	group of donors, oxygen as acceptor
Tmer	108 transmembrane protein 108	-1.25	1.55E-05 C			membrane integral to membrane		
Csprs Gm7	component of Sp100-rs 609 predicted gene 7609	-0.89 -1.02	1.73E-05 0 1.78E-05 0	0.020 0.020		nucleus nucleus	N receptor activity receptor activity	

Enpep glutamyl aminopeptidase	-1.27 1.86E-05 0.020 angiogenesis cell migration proteolysis cell proliferation	plasma membrane brush border membrane integral to membrane apical plasma membrane cytoplasmic vesicle	aminopeptidase activity peptidase activity zinc ion binding hydrolase activity metal ion binding	
Hs6st3 heparan sulfate 6-O-sulfotransferase 3	0.70 2.60E-05 0.026 carbohydrate biosynthetic process	apical part of cell membrane	sulfotransferase activity	
Wt1 Wilms tumor 1 homolog	-1.39 2.78E-05 0.027 negative regulation of transcription from RNA vasculogenesis metanephros development ureteric bud development branching involved in ureteric bud morphoger kidney development mesonephros development transcription regulation of transcription, DNA-dependent regulation of transcription from RNA polymers germ cell development heart development sex determination RNA splicing male gonad develop negative regulation of transcription adrenal gland development male genitalia development epithelial cell differentiation glomerulus development inferred from mutant phenotype camera-type eye development negative regulation of apoptosis regulation of poptosis	cytoplasm nucleus nuclear speck esis	nucleic acid binding DNA binding double-stranded DNA binding transcription factor activity RNA binding protein binding zinc ion binding transcription activator activity transcription repressor activity specific transcriptional repressor activity sequence-specific DNA binding metal ion binding C2H2 zinc finger domain binding	
Cyp7b1 cytochrome P450, family 7, subfamily b, polypeptide 1	-1.58 3.06E-05 0.028 lipid metabolic process ble acid biosynthetic process digestion memory circadian rhythm steroid metabolic process cholesterol metabolic process negative regulation of estrogen receptor signipositive regulation of epithelial cell proliferation of prostate gland epithelium morphogenesis	endoplasmic reticulum microsome membrane iling pathway in	monooxygenase activity iron ion binding oxysterol 7-alpha-hydroxylase activity electron carrier activity oxidoreductase activity heme binding 25-hydroxycholesterol 7alpha-hydroxylase a metal ion binding	ctivity
Abcb11 ATP-binding cassette, sub-family B (MDR	-0.77 3.09E-05 0.028 transport canalicular bile acid transport response to drug drug export transmembrane transport	Golgi membrane membrane fraction Golgi apparatus membrane integral to membrane apical plasma membrane intercellular canaliculus	nucleotide binding protein binding ATP binding ATP binding canalicular bile acid transmembrane transpording transmembrane transporter activity ATPase activity nucleoside-triphosphatase activity ATPase activity, coupled to transmembrane	•
Serpina3i serine (or cysteine) peptidase inhibitor, clade A, member 3N	-1.03 3.24E-05 0.028 acute-phase response response to cytokine stimulus response to peptide hormone stimulus	cell fraction extracellular region	serine-type endopeptidase inhibitor activity peptidase inhibitor activity	
Gda guanine deaminase	-0.68 3.48E-05 0.029		protein binding zinc ion binding guanine deaminase activity hydrolase activity metal ion binding	
Frmd4b FERM domain containing 4B	-0.72 3.96E-05 0.029	cytoplasm cytoskeleton		
LOC6333 similar to dachsous 2 isoform 2 Neto1 neuropilin (NRP) and tolloid (TLL)-like 1	0.75 4.22E-05 0.029 0.87 4.35E-05 0.029 memory visual learning regulation of long-term neuronal synaptic pla	plasma membrane postsynaptic density membrane integral to membrane cell junction synapse postsynaptic membrane excitatory synapse	 receptor activity protein binding	
Serpini1 serine (or cysteine) peptidase inhibitor, clade I, member 1	-0.91 4.38E-05 0.029 regulation of cell adhesion	extracellular region	serine-type endopeptidase inhibitor activity peptidase inhibitor activity	
Thbs1 thrombospondin 1	-1.00 4.54E-05 0.029 growth plate cartilage development inflammatory response cell adhesion positive regulation of cell-substrate adhesion negative regulation of angiogenesis	extracellular region extracellular space	structural molecule activity calcium ion binding protein binding extracellular matrix binding	TGF_Beta_Signaling_Pathway
Pcdh15 protocadherin 15	0.81 4.71E-05 0.029 startle response morphogenesis of an epithelium actin filament organization cell adhesion homophilic cell adhesion visual perception	membrane integral to membrane stereocilium photoreceptor outer segment cytoplasm	calcium ion binding protein binding	

sensory perception of sound locomotory behavior adult walking behavior adult locomotory behavior sensory cilium assembly multicellular organism growth auditory receptor cell differentiation inner ear development

response to stimulus detection of mechanical stimulus involved in sensory perception of sound detection of mechanical stimulus involved in equilibrioception

righting reflex

auditory receptor cell stereocilium organization auditory receptor cell stereocilium

Olfml2b olfactomedin-like 2B -0.75 4.86E-05 0.029 extracellular matrix organization extracellular region membrane extracellular matrix -0.89 6.22E-05 0.036 protein amino acid phosphorylation extracellular region

transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase signa plasma membrane integral to plasma membrane

membrane

integral to membrane

ELOVL family member 6, elongation of long chain fatty acids (yeast) -0.96 7.01E-05 0.038 fatty acid biosynthetic process mitochondrion

-0.68 7.66E-05 0.041 ---

-1.93 8.37E-05 0.044 proteolysis

lipid biosynthetic process endoplasmic reticulum

fatty acid elongation

membrane integral to membrane

integral to endoplasmic reticulum membrane

Golgi apparatus membrane

integral to membrane

extracellular region

membrane

membrane fraction plasma membrane membrane

integral to membrane

integral to membrane

Sema5a sema domain, seven thrombospondin repeats (type 1 and type 1-like), -0.80 0.00011 0.049 patterning of blood vessels

transmembrane domain (TM) and short cytoplasmic domain, (semaphorin) 5A multicellular organismal development

glucosaminyl (N-acetyl) transferase 2, I-branching enzyme

angiotensin I converting enzyme (peptidyl-dipeptidase A) 2

Gcnt2

Ace2

nervous system development axon guidance

cell differentiation branching morphogenesis of a tube protein homodimerization activity extracellular matrix binding

nucleotide binding

protein kinase activity

protein tyrosine kinase activity transmembrane receptor protein tyrosine kinase activity

receptor activity ephrin receptor activity protein binding ATP binding

kinase activity

transferase activity transferase activity, transferring acyl groups ol ---

N-acetyllactosaminide beta-1,6-N-acetylqlucos ---

acetylglucosaminyltransferase activity

transferase activity

transferase activity, transferring glycosyl groups

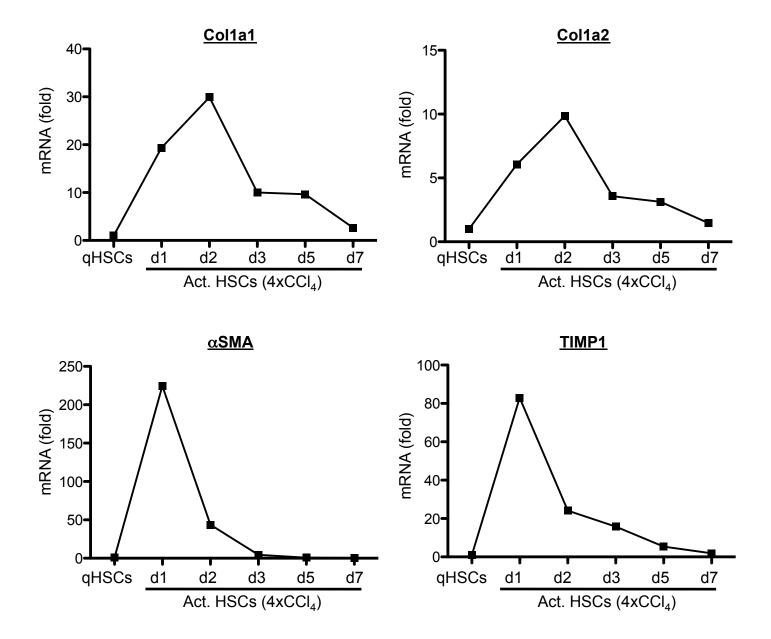
carboxypeptidase activity peptidase activity metallopeptidase activity peptidyl-dipeptidase activity hydrolase activity peptide hormone binding

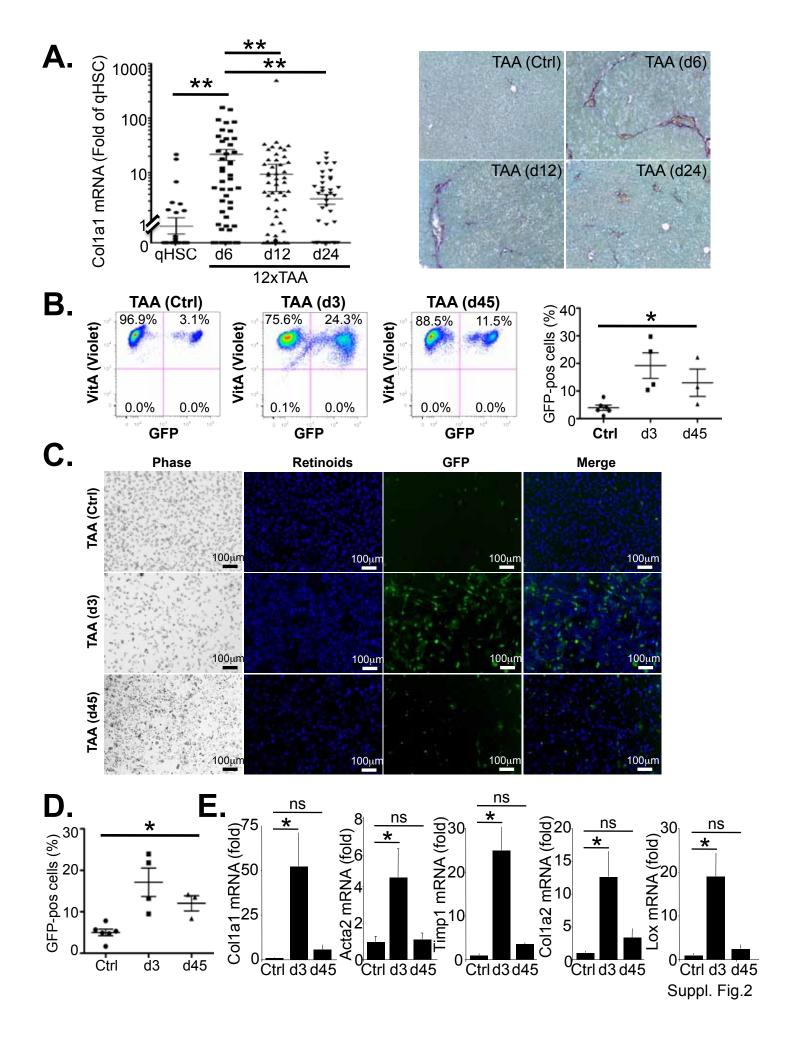
peptide binding

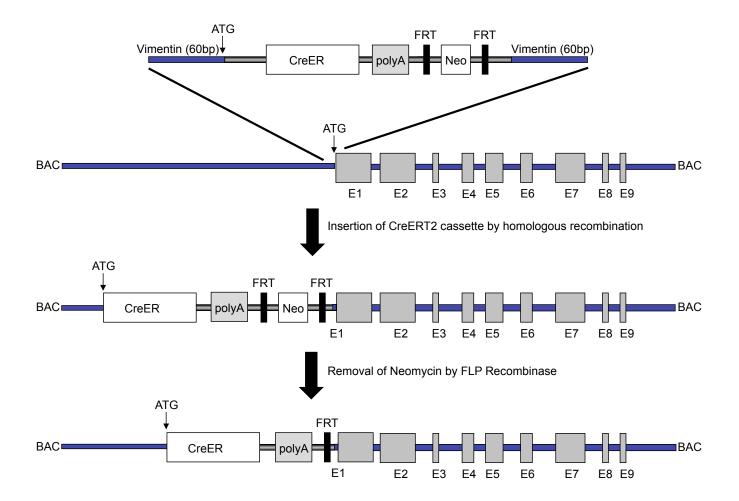
receptor activity axon guidance receptor activity

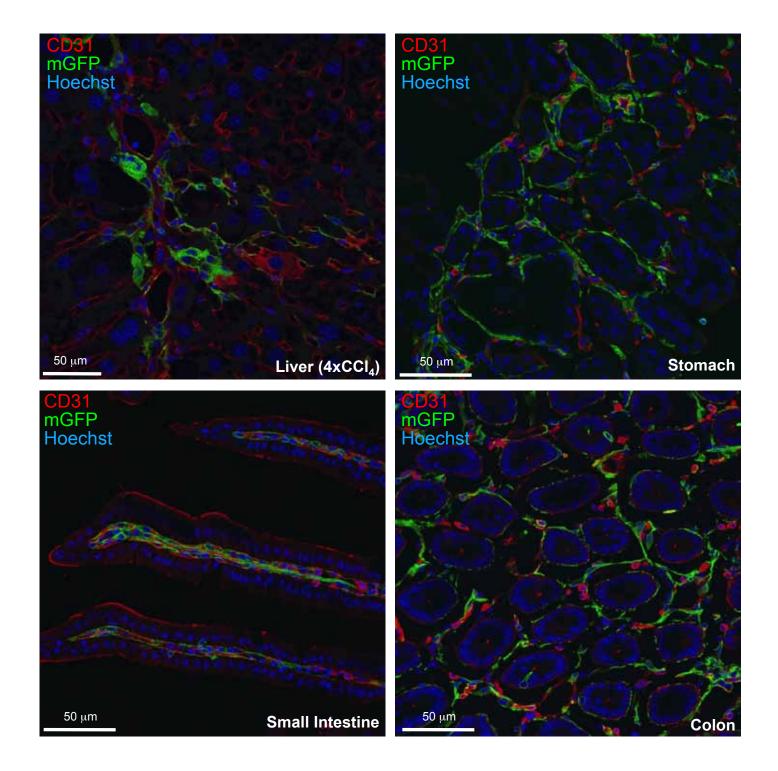
probe	Symbol	Description	logFC (reverted HSC vs qHSC)	P.Value	adj.P.Val
10376201		glutathione peroxidase 3	1.972522813		
10603066		angiotensin I converting enzyme (peptidyl-dipeptidase A)			0.04439331
10358389		regulator of G-protein signaling 2	1.837423785		
10351293		dermatopontin	1.692504125		
10497381	Cyp7b1	cytochrome P450, family 7, subfamily b, polypeptide 1	1.581680526	3.06E-05	0.02816903
10346882		a disintegrin and metallopeptidase domain 23	1.40256214		
10474295		Wilms tumor 1 homolog	1.388894992		0.02745547
10445347		chloride intracellular channel 5	1.320841573		0.01322506
10513208 10530029	•	sushi, von Willebrand factor type A, EGF and pentraxin do leucine-rich repeat LGI family, member 2	1.304258041 1.273740262		0.00865815 0.00865815
10502081		glutamyl aminopeptidase	1.273740202		0.02000148
10523175		epiregulin	1.270140957		0.07900051
	Tmem108	transmembrane protein 108	1.252323336	1.55E-05	0.01921247
10354247		four and a half LIM domains 2	1.196017233		0.06518024
10547322		calcium channel, voltage-dependent, L type, alpha 1C sub			0.00865815
10545588		hexokinase 2	1.104627815		0.1413395
10409579 10389022		chemokine (C-X-C motif) ligand 14 myosin ID	1.077666665 1.058509366		0.01274644 0.00865815
10458894		lysyl oxidase	1.051891849		0.01921247
10367982		G protein-coupled receptor 126	1.037333014		0.00865815
	Serpina3n	serine (or cysteine) peptidase inhibitor, clade A, member	1.031793537		0.02819706
10389025		myosin ID	1.021271541		0.0158523
10519140		matrix metallopeptidase 23	1.021208459		0.05662672
10347915		predicted gene 7609	1.017141954		0.0198244
10371740 10474700		anoctamin 4	1.015441666		0.01086987
10514576		thrombospondin 1 KN motif and ankyrin repeat domains 4	1.004864322 1.003024026	0.00299599	0.02868669 0.20263964
10379190		vitronectin	0.971515522		
10495993		ELOVL family member 6, elongation of long chain fatty ac			0.03845938
10347925	Gm7609	predicted gene 7609	0.930000336	2.92E-05	0.02801806
10472050		tumor necrosis factor alpha induced protein 6	0.926995164		0.20263964
10404686	•	bone morphogenetic protein 6	0.915266697		0.00865815
10492628		serine (or cysteine) peptidase inhibitor, clade I, member			0.02868669
10492682 10606016		family with sequence similarity 198, member B interleukin 2 receptor, gamma chain	0.894280878 0.890401451	0.00177647 3.67E-06	0.17445586 0.01086987
10582879		component of Sp100-rs	0.888149241	1.73E-05	0.0198244
10440258		Eph receptor A3	0.887090876		
10498273		transmembrane 4 superfamily member 1	0.874013407		0.0707632
	Fam180a	family with sequence similarity 180, member A	0.871269849		0.16732915
10356274		component of Sp100-rs	0.868319055		0.01218651
10577164		growth arrest specific 6	0.8561532		0.05662672
10453057 10409278		cytochrome P450, family 1, subfamily b, polypeptide 1 nuclear factor, interleukin 3, regulated	0.850680766 0.848662199		0.00865815 0.19684377
10398665		tumor necrosis factor, alpha-induced protein 2	0.829606141		0.1413395
10513739		tenascin C	0.802872452		0.06954526
10581605		haptoglobin	0.801193397		0.09899118
10570855		plasminogen activator, tissue	0.800964667		0.23798162
10423520		sema domain, seven thrombospondin repeats (type 1 and			0.04906987
10452316		complement component 3	0.77933108		0.26145665
10431051 10416340		signal peptide, CUB domain, EGF-like 1 glial cell line derived neurotrophic factor family receptor a	0.777266301 0.77238485		
10410340		ATP-binding cassette, sub-family B (MDR	0.77236463		0.02816903
10518947		adherens junction associated protein 1	0.762066761		
10354598		HECT, C2 and WW domain containing E3 ubiquitin protein			0.07826996
10566583	Gm8995	predicted gene 8995	0.758221323		0.05205665
10351491		olfactomedin-like 2B	0.748412221	4.86E-05	
10583870		BMP-binding endothelial regulator	0.732885083	0.00066255	0.11778829
10416510		nuclear fragile X mental retardation protein interacting pr		9.21E-06 0.00750015	0.01363897 0.25096337
10567010 10546631		dickkopf homolog 3 (Xenopus laevis) FERM domain containing 4B	0.724522083 0.721477602	3.96E-05	0.02868669
10449775		Notch gene homolog 3 (Drosophila)	0.714949644		0.21924316
10349401		G protein-coupled receptor 39	0.714494964		0.09919756
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10424400		myelocytomatosis oncogene	0.696201959	0.00195474	0.1786704
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	Tmem178 Adamts15	transmembrane protein 178 a disintegrin-like and metallopeptidase (reprolysin type) v	0.679304549 0.677325308		0.17595902 0.26136208
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10344897		sulfatase 1	0.661236795		0.05205665
10587799		phospholipid scramblase 2	0.649720785		0.21724195
10443527		proviral integration site 1	0.644888464		0.20263964
10592061 10471844		potassium inwardly-rectifying channel, subfamily J, memb NIMA (never in mitosis gene a)-related expressed kinase		0.00229079 1.02E-05	0.18848973 0.01445043
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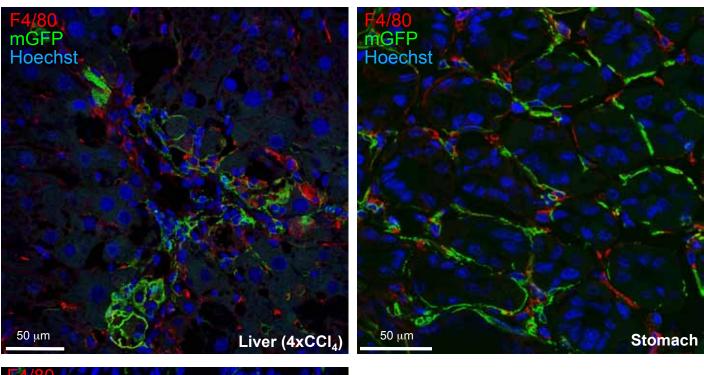
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				1.70E-05	
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		shisa homolog 3 (Xenopus laevis)	0.567717348		0.11702634
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	•	9 , , , ,		0.0061269	
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		· ·			
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10422728	Dab2	disabled homolog 2 (Drosophila)	0.504774144	0.00082768	0.12795141
10576774	Clec4q	C-type lectin domain family 4, member g	0.503288131	0.00125394	0.15016606
10382802		sphingosine kinase 1	0.502184732	0.00962681	0.26189038
10452295		tubulin, beta 4	0.501556379	0.00460795	
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10565456	Prss23	protease, serine, 23	0.500212102	0.00012292	0.05203145
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10350438	Kcnt2	potassium channel, subfamily T, member 2	-0.508431044	0.00226328	0.1872908
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10511333		pleiomorphic adenoma gene 1	-0.513565885	0.00258524	0.19684377
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10560618		apolipoprotein C-I	-0.559699587	0.00246429	0.19471189
	•				
10416057		clusterin	-0.563716164	0.00059663	0.11344213
10488378	Thbd	thrombomodulin	-0.56842842	0.00051217	0.1052642
10446739	Clip4	CAP-GLY domain containing linker protein family, member	-0.573536541	0.0026825	0.19855988
10521616		C1g and tumor necrosis factor related protein 7	-0.58469345	0.00106647	0.1413395
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10477169	Id1	inhibitor of DNA binding 1	-0.614302692	0.00327267	0.20503078
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10459671		deleted in colorectal carcinoma	-0.651731019	9.79E-05	0.04609884
10390691		nuclear receptor subfamily 1, group D, member 1	-0.681358255	0.00201072	0.17904196
10417048	Hs6st3	heparan sulfate 6-O-sulfotransferase 3	-0.696850191	2.60E-05	0.02640076
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10474958		delta-like 4 (Drosophila)	-0.748841629	0.00882764	0.25828726
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10482814		activin A receptor, type IC	-0.807000168	0.00661379	0.24094256
10363921	Pcdh15	protocadherin 15	-0.810139002	4.71E-05	0.02878946
10490491	Gata5	GATA binding protein 5	-0.825755896	0.0003044	0.07900051
10489305		protein tyrosine phosphatase, receptor type, T	-0.868100163	0.00016216	0.05662672
10457091		neuropilin (NRP) and tolloid (TLL)-like 1	-0.868690269	4.35E-05	0.02868669
10529264	Spon2	spondin 2, extracellular matrix protein	-0.904942078	0.00611255	0.23636104
10463875	Sorcs3	sortilin-related VPS10 domain containing receptor 3	-0.992107266	0.00032223	0.08225104
10540233		family with sequence similarity 19, member A1	-1.016519005	7.08E-06	0.01322506
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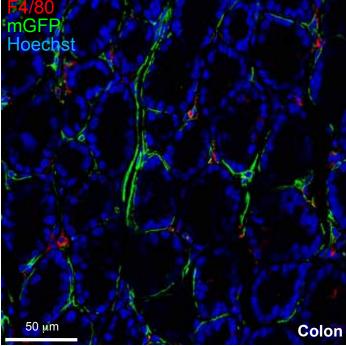


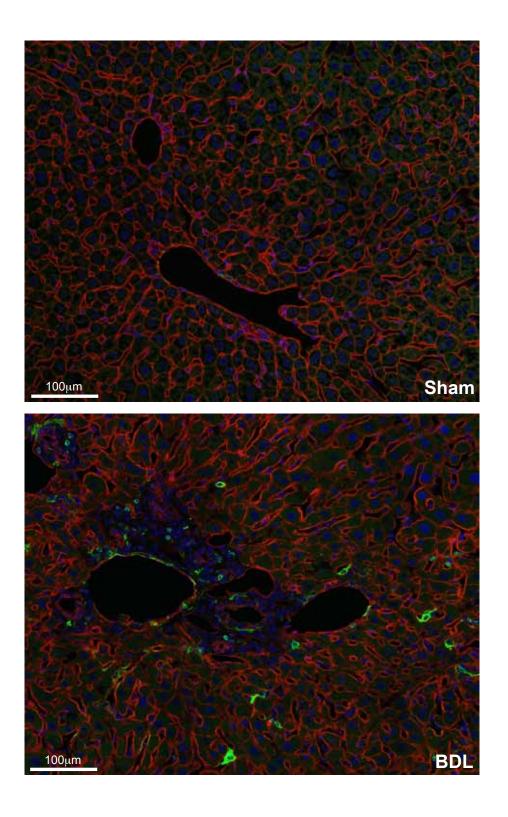


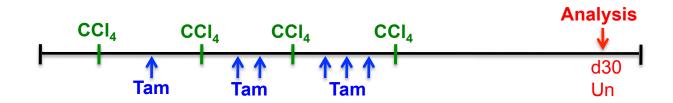




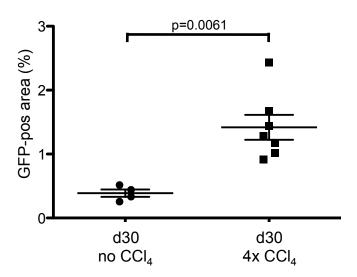




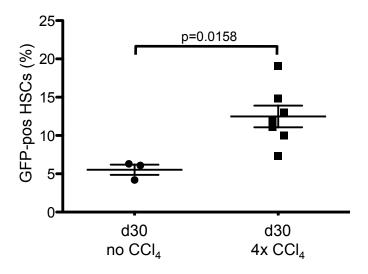


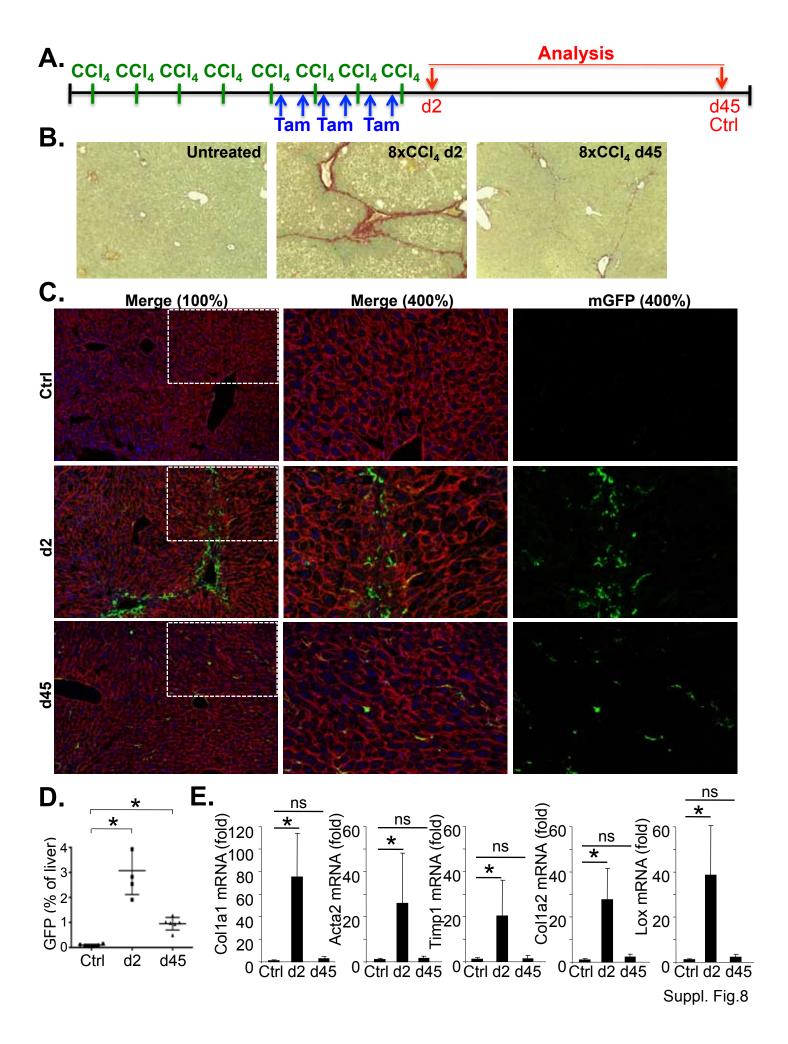


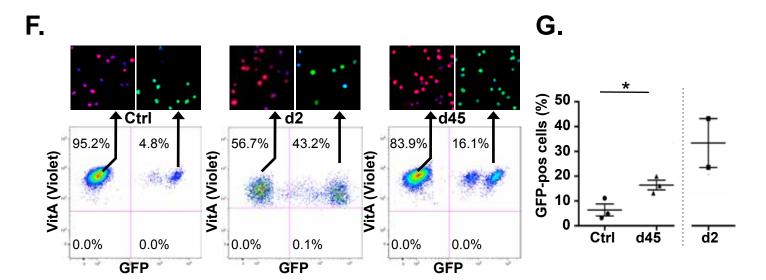
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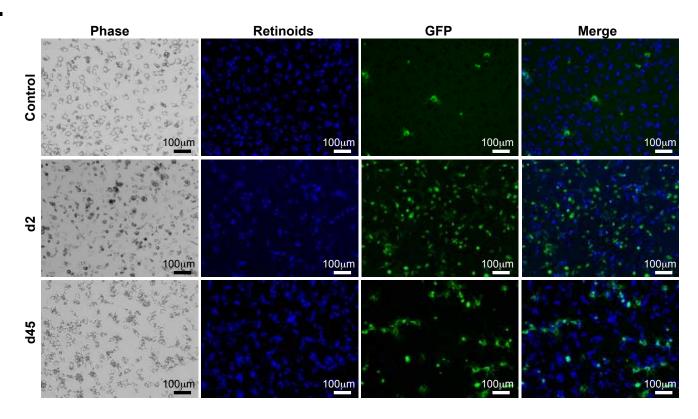
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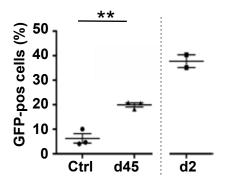


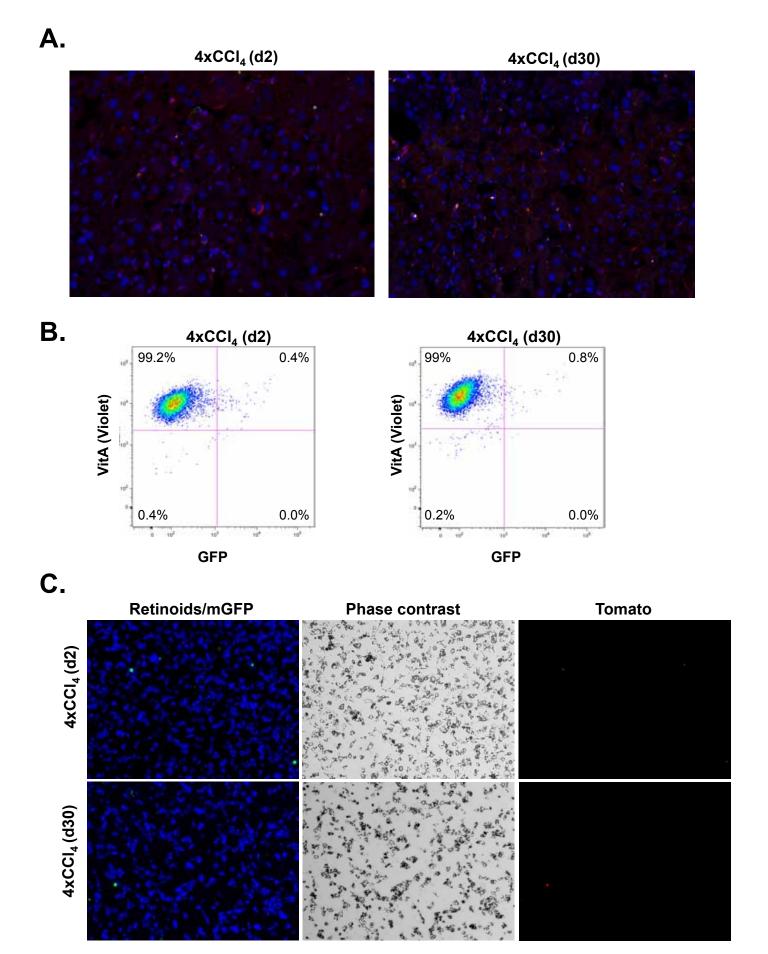




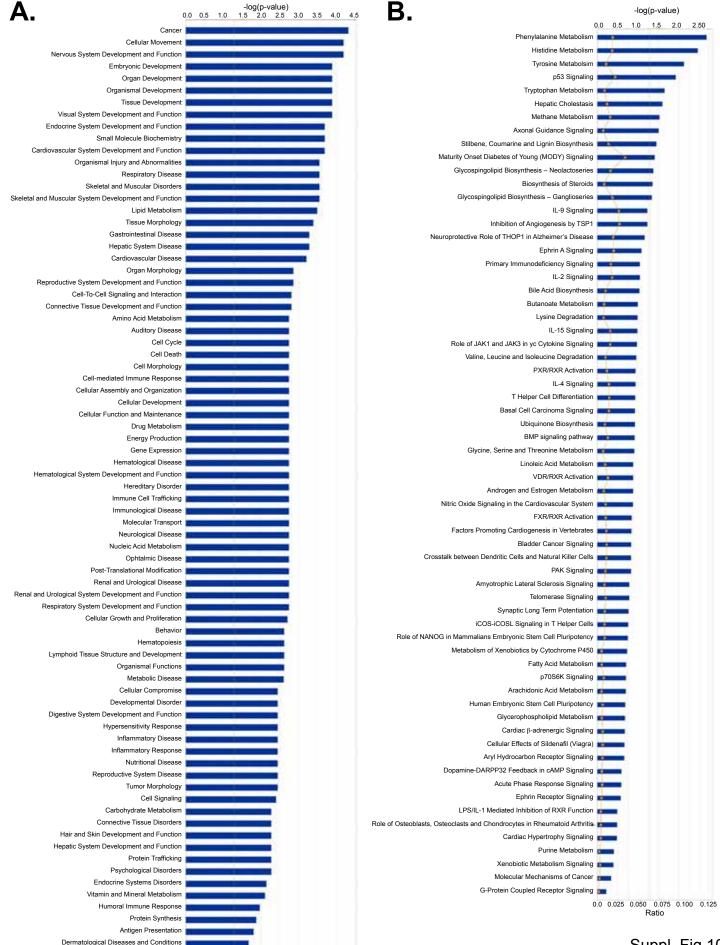


I.





Suppl. Fig.9



Cellular Response to Therapeutics

Supplementary Methods

Flow-cytometric analysis

For analysis of mGFP expression by microscopy, HSCs were plated in chamber slides and maintained for 16h in DMEM media containing 10% FBS and antibiotics. For flow-cytometric analysis of mGFP expression, HSCs were analyzed on a FACSAria cell sorter based on vitamin A fluorescence to gate high purity HSCs, and mGFP expression to detect HSCs marked by Vim-CreER, providing a percentage of mGFP-positive cells among all Vitamin A-positive cells. For the analysis of mRNA expression, HSCs were sorted on a FACSAria cell sorter based on vitamin A fluorescence to gate high purity HSCs, and in some cases mGFP expression, and immediately lysed in RNA lysis buffer.

Bone marrow transplantation. Bone marrow transplantation was performed as previously described 1 . Briefly, mice underwent lethal irradiation with 2x6Gy followed by intravenous injection of $10x10^{6}$ bone marrow cells and reconstitution for at least 2 months following transplantation.

Microarray analysis. Microarray analysis of quiescent HSCs (n=4 independent HSC isolates) and reverted HSCs (n=4 independent isolates) was performed using Affymetrix 1.0ST chips according to the manufacturers instructions. Briefly, 150 ng total RNA was used for cDNA sythesis and terminal labeling using the Ambion WT expression and terminal labeling kit and Robust Multichip Algorithm normalization ². Data was deposited in GEO (Accession number: GSE38648). Differential expression was obtained

using Limma ³ in the R/Bioconductor statistical computing environment ⁴. A significance cutoff of the Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Rate <0.05 was used ⁵. Complete linkage hierarchical clustering ⁶ was performed on significant genes with |log₂FC| >0.67 using Cluster 3.0 ⁷ and JavaTreeview ⁸. Pathway analysis was done by IPA Ingenuity using genes selecting by the above criteria, i.e. False Discovery Rate <0.05 and |log₂FC| >0.67.

Immunohistochemistry and confocal microscopy

Immunohistochemical staining was done on frozen sections using primary antibodies against vimentin (1:100, Epitomics, Burlingame, CA, USA), desmin (1:200, Lab Vision, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Fremont, CA, USA), F4/80 (1:200, AbD Serotec, Raleigh, NC, USA), rabbit-anti cow pankeratin ("wide spectrum screening", 1:200, DAKO, Carpinteria, CA, USA), CD31 (1:200, Pharmingen, San Diego, CA) and HNF4α (1:100, Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, CA, USA), and secondary Alexa Fluor 647 goat anti-rabbit, chicken anti-rat or Alexa Fluor 660 donkey anti-goat (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA). Confocal microscopy was performed on a Nikon A1R MP confocal microscope (Nikon Instruments, Melville, NY, USA) using a 40x oil immersion lens. For some pictures, 4-6 40x sections were merged.

mGFP quantification

mGFP expression in purified HSCs was quantified 16h after plating. mGFP and Vitamin A fluorescence and phase contrast images were visualized an Olympus 71IX microscope using a 10x lens. Vitamin A-positive cells, mGFP-positive cells and VitaminA-mGFP

double-positive cells were counted in Adobe Photoshop. mGFP expression was detected in frozen liver sections by confocal microscopy and analyzed by Image J. Data is expressed as percentage of mGFP area in comparison to total area.

Quantitative Real-time and Single Cell PCR

After column purification of RNA (RNeasy, Qiagen), DNAse treatment and reverse transcription, mRNA levels of Acta2, Col1a1, Col1a2, Desmin, Lox and Timp1 were determined by quantitative real-time PCR on an Applied Biosystem 7300 PCR cycler using ABI Taqman primers and probes as described. 9,10 For single cell PCR, single HSCs were flow-cytometrically sorted, using Vitamin A autofluorescence and excluding dead cells by propidium iodide staining, into 96-well plates containing a 9 μl mix of RT buffer from the Invitrogen CellsDirectTM One–Step qRT–PCR kit (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) and primers for pre-amplification. For the construction of standard curves, 1000 HSCs were sorted into some wells. Reverse transcription and 18 cycles of pre-amplification were immediately performed after cell sorting using the CellsDirectTM One–Step qRT–PCR kit. The ensuing qPCR was performed as described above using the 7300 Applied Biosystems PCR cycler and Taqman probes. Single cell qPCR was normalized to desmin, and only desmin-positive wells were used for qPCR analysis.

Statistical analysis

All data is expressed as means with error bars representing the standard deviation. Statistical calculations were performed using Prism (Graphpad, San Diego California, USA). For comparison of two groups, two-sided unpaired t-test or Mann-Whitney test

were used. For multiple group comparisons with normal distribution, ANOVA with Neuman-Keuls or Dunnett posthoc analysis was performed. A p-value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

Supplementary Figure legends.

Supplementary Figure 1. HSCs were isolated from male untreated Balb/c mice or from Balb/c mice treated with 4 injections of CCl₄ and sacrificed at various time points after the last CCl₄ injection for the analysis of fibrogenic genes Colla1, Colla2, αSMA and TIMP1.

Supplementary Figure 2. A. Balb/c mice were treated with 12 intraperitoneal injections of TAA or left untreated, followed by HSC isolation by the combination of gradient centrifugation and vitamin A-based single cell FACS sorting. Analysis included qHSCs from untreated mice (n=58) and HSCs 6 days after TAA (n=50), 12 days after TAA (n=102), and 24 days after TAA (n=58). Following preamplification, single cell qPCR was performed for Collal (left panel). Shown is one out of two representative HSC isolations per time point. Sirius Red staining demonstrates TAA-induces fibrosis induction and reversal after cessation of injury. B. Vim-Cre mice were treated with 18 intraperitoneal injections of TAA and tamoxifen or tamoxifen alone as indicated, followed by HSC isolation by gradient centrifugation. Expression of mGFP was

determined by flow-cytometric analysis of Vitamin A-autofluorescent HSCs. Shown are representative FACS images of each time point (left panels) and quantification (right panel) of HSCs isolated from control mice (n=6), HSCs isolated 3 days (n=4) and 45 days (n=3) after the last TAA injection. C-D. Expression of mGFP was determined by fluorescent microscopy of plated HSCs isolated from TAA-treated or tamoxifen only control mice at various time points. Shown are representative pictures of vitamin A fluorescence, mGFP expression and an overlay of both (C.), and a quantification (D.) of GFP-positive/Vitamin A-positive HSCs. E. Fibrogenic gene expression in whole liver from Vim-CreER mice was performed by qPCR in TAA-treated mice at day 3 (n=4) or day 45 (n=3) after the last CCl₄ injection or in mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). *p<0.05, **p<0.01

Supplementary Figure 3. Shown is the construct for generation of VimCreER-transgenic mice by BAC recombineering.

Supplementary Figure 4. To determine whether endothelial cells are marked in VimCreER transgenic mice, frozen sections of CCl₄-treated liver, stomach, small intestine and colon were stained for CD31 and analyzed by confocal microscopy. All sections show close but separate localization of CD31-positive endothelium (red) and mGFP (green). Nuclei were stained by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 5. To determine whether macrophages are marked in VimCreER transgenic mice, frozen sections of CCl₄-treated liver, stomach and colon were stained for F4/80 and analyzed by confocal microscopy. All sections show close but separate

localization of F4/80-positive macrophages (red) and mGFP (green). Nuclei were stained by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 6. Confocal microscopy of livers from either 2 week bile duct ligated mice or sham-operated mice showing Vim-CreER mediated recombination by green mGFP fluorescence, and unrecombined cells by red mTom fluorescence. Nuclei were stainted by Hoechst (blue).

Supplementary Figure 7. A-B. Mice that either did or did not receive 4 injections of CCl₄ were sacrificed 31 days after their last tamoxifen injection (corresponding to 30 days after their last CCl₄ injection). Frozen liver sections were analyzed for the percentage of mGFP-positive area in mice that received CCl₄ (n=7) or mice that did not receive CCl₄ (n=4) (A.). HSCs were isolated from mice that received CCl₄ (n=7) or mice that did not receive CCl₄ (n=3) and the percentage of GFP-positive cells among all Vitamin A-positive cells was determined by counting (B.).

Supplementary Figure 8. A. Schematic diagram showing the timing of tamoxifen and CCl₄ injections, and sacrifice at 2, and 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection of VimCreER mice. B. Sirius Red images show almost complee reversal of liver fibrosis at d45 after 8 CCl₄ injections. C. mGFP and mTom expression in livers of untreated or CCl₄-treated mice were visualized by confocal microscopy 2, and 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection or a time point corresponding to 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection in the tamoxifen only control mice. The middle and right panel show higher magnification representing the area marked by dotted white lines in the left panel. D. mGFP expression was quantified and expressed as percentage of total area for CCl₄-treated mice at day 2 (n=6)

or day 45 (n=5) after the last CCl₄ injection or mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). E. Fibrogenic gene expression in whole liver from Vim-CreER mice was performed by qPCR in CCl₄-treated mice at day 2 (n=6) or day 45 (n=5) after the last CCl₄ injection or in mice receiving tamoxifen only ("Ctrl", n=6). F-G. HSCs were isolated from CCl₄-treated mice at d2 and d45 after last CCl₄ injection or from tams. HSCs from control mice receiving corn oil and tamoxifen only were isolated at a time corresponding to 45 days after the last CCl₄ injection. Expression of mGFP was determined by flow-cytometric analysis of Vitamin A-autofluorescent HSCs. Shown are representative FACS images of each time point (F.) and quantification (G.) of HSCs isolated from untreated mice (n=3), HSCs isolated 2 days (n=2) and 45 days (n=3) after the last CCl₄ injection. Inserts show HSCs from each sorted cell population confirming cells as vitamin A-positive HSCs that either do not express mGFP and are mTom positive, or express mGFP but not mTom. H-I. Expression of mGFP was determined by fluorescent microscopy of plated HSCs isolated from CCl₄-treated or tamoxifen only control mice at various time points. Shown are representative pictures of vitamin A fluorescence, mGFP expression and an overlay of both (H.), and a quantification (I.) of GFP-positive/Vitamin A-positive HSCs. * p<0.05 ** p<0.01

Supplementary Figure 9. Wild-type mice underwent bone marrow transplantation with mTom-mGFP+/Vim-CreER+ bone marrow as described in Methods and Material followed by 4 intraperitoneal injections of CCl₄ (0.5 µl/g body weight). A. Representative images at peak fibrosis (d2) and after fibrosis resolution (d30) show abundant bone mTom-positive marrow-derived inflammatory cells but only extremely rare mGFP-positive cell. B-C. HSCs were isolated from 4xCCl₄-treated bone marrow-chimeric mice

2 and 30 days after the last CCl₄ injection. FACS analysis (B) and fluorescent microscopy (C) did not show significant presence of mGFP-positive HSCs.

Supplementary Figure 10. A-B. Display of the IPA pathway analysis for 37 genes that were altered in reverted HSCs in comparison to qHSCs fulfilling the criteria of False Discovery Rate <0.05 and $|\log_2 FC| > 0.67$. Show is the IPA analysis for gene functions (A) and canonical pathways (B) using the 37 genes with sign Supplementary Table 1.

Supplementary Table 1. Shown are the gene symbol, description, log fold change, p-value, corrected p-value ("fdr"), gene ontology biological process, gene ontology cellular component, gene ontology molecular function and pathway annotation for all 37 genes that were significantly different between reverted HSCs and qHSCs (fulfilling the criteria of False Discovery Rate < 0.05 and $|\log_2 FC| > 0.67$).

Supplementary Table 2. Hepatic stellate cells were isolated from age-matched untreated mice (n=4) or mice that had undergone 4 CCl_4 injections followed by a 45 day recovery period (n=4) followed by microarray analysis using Affymetrix 1.0 ST arrays. Shown are all annoted genes with more than 0.5 log change and an uncorrected p-value of < 0.01.

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